

all the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. Former claims 42 and 43 depended from claim 1 which had been cancelled. This was a typographical error (which the Examiner correctly identified) and should have properly been previously written as depending from claim 40. The examiner correctly treated the claims as depending from claim 40. Kindly note that we have rewritten previous claim 40 to include the limitations found in claim 40 as well as claim 42. Therefore, newly amended claim 40 now contains patentable subject matter as indicated by the Examiner.

Kindly note that claim 41 has been rewritten to include all the limitations found in former claim 40 as well as former claim 43 and therefore now contains patentable subject matter as indicated by the Examiner.

Therefore all claims depending from either 40 or 41 now contain patentable subject matter, therefore claims 44, 45 and 46 now contain patentable subject matter.

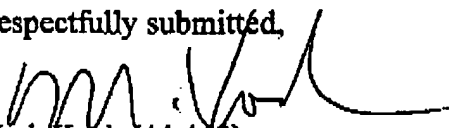
Newly drafted claims 58 and 59 mirror claims 40 and 41 but are drawn to a "paint brush" rather than a "handle". Claim 58 contains all the limitations found in former claim 40 as well as 42 with the further element of a brush head. Therefore, claim 58 now contains patentable subject matter as indicated by the Examiner.

Claim 59 contains all of the limitations found in former claim 40 as well as former claim 43 in addition to the additional element of a brush head and therefore, independent claim 59 now contains patentable subject matter.

Therefore, claims depending from claim 58 and 59 now contain patentable subject matter. We now have a total of four independent claims and therefore we include the fee for the additional independent claim not originally submitted.

We now submit that these claims are in a condition of allowance and look forward to receiving your reply, I remain.

Respectfully submitted,


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